

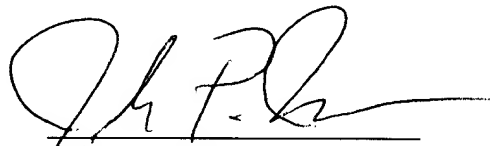
REMARKS

Applicants have added claims 131-42, which are copied from U.S. Patent No. 6,228,900 B1 to Shen *et al.*, which issued May 8, 2001 (copy enclosed). Claims 131-42 correspond respectively to claims 1, 9, 28, 36, 43, 51, 57, 62, 70, 80, 87 and 99 of the '900 patent. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 124-42 will be pending.

By filing this preliminary amendment, applicants have fully complied with the requirements of 35 USC § 135(b)(1). Applicants request examination of the claims. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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